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| 10/750,191 | 12/31/2003 | Derek N. LaSalle | MSFT-2833/305223.01 | 9181 |

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WOODCOCK WASHBURN LLP (MICROSOFT CORPORATION)

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EXAMINER

BURGESS, BARBARA N

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2457

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

04/27/2010

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/750,191

Applicant(s)

LASALLE ET AL.

Examiner

BARBARA N. BURGESS

Art Unit

2457

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 March 2010.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 11-24 and 28-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 11-24 and 28-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB-06)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This Action is in response to Request for Continuation Examination (RCE) filed March 18, 2010. Claims 1-7, 11-24, 28-31 are presented for further examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-7, 11-24, 28-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Elza et al. (hereinafter "Elza", US Patent Publication 2004/0230903 A1) in view of Lindsey (US Patent Publication 2004/0121789 A1) and in further view of Lewis et al. (hereinafter "Lewis", US Patent Publication 2003/0109271 A1)

As per claims 1 and 18, Elza discloses a system for transport agnostic pull mode messaging comprising:

a first client for sending a first message to a first adapter using a first communication protocol, receiving a response from the first adapter using the first communication protocol indicating that the first message was received, and resending the first message to the first adapter using the first communication protocol if the response from the adapter is not received within a predetermined time period (paragraphs [0079-0080, 0086, 0088]);

a first adapter for receiving the first message and sending the response to the first client using the first communication protocol indicating that the first message was received, generating a second message based on the first message, and sending the second message to a server engine using a second communication protocol (paragraphs [0080-0082, 0085, 0110]);

a server engine for executing at least one instruction based on the second message (paragraphs [0085, 0087, 0122]); and

a message storage for storing data associated with the second message (paragraphs [0084, 0086]).

Elza does not explicitly disclose:

A plurality of first clients;

The first communication protocol corresponding to each first client being different from the first communication protocol corresponding to every other first client;

Each first adapter being constructed to communicate with the corresponding first client according to the corresponding and differing first communication protocol;

Every first adapter being constructed to communicate with the common server engine according to the common second communication protocol;

The common server engine, such common server engine for receiving each second message and executing at least one instruction based on the received second message, the at least one executed instruction for retrieving from a storage device electronic communications to the user and sending the retrieved electronic

communications to an endpoint comprising another first client of the user different from the first client of the user;

Each first adapter being local to the common server engine and remote from the corresponding first client.

However, the use and advantages of using such adapter is well-known to one of ordinary skill in the art as evidenced by Lindsey (paragraphs [0014, 0020-0022], Figure 2).

Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have found it obvious to implement or incorporate Lindsey's adapter in Elza's system in order to translate information for plurality of remote access devices.

Elza, in view of Lindsey, does not explicitly disclose:

The endpoint being identified by the user in the first message by way of an identifier of the endpoint, the common server engine for determining the endpoint from the identifier thereof from the second message and storing the retrieved electronic communications in a queue corresponding to the determined endpoint, the determined endpoint accessing the queue and pulling the stored electronic communications therefrom;

At least one executed instruction including a query derived from the second message for particular ones of electronic communications to the user as already stored by the common server engine, the common server engine for retrieving from a storage device

the particular ones of the electronic communications to the user according to the query and sending the retrieved electronic communications corresponding to the query.

However, in an analogous art, Lewis teaches a system for communicating a message between a first and second device. A first adapter receives a first formatted message from the first device. The first adapter translates the message into a common formatted message. The common formatted message is sent across the network. The receiving processor extracts the destination device address. The receiving processor is able to translate again the common formatted message into another message suitable for the particular destination device address. The message can then be placed on a queue for access by particular destination device. The messages are stored in a database such as a Message Data Store (MDS). A particular message may be queried or requested by client from the storage (paragraphs [0105, 0108, 0117, 0263, 0275-0276, 0320, 0474]).

Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have found it obvious to implement or incorporate Lewis's determining the endpoint from the second message and storing electronic communications in a queue corresponding to the determined endpoint and querying for particular ones of electronic communications already stored in Elza's system facilitating the sending and receipt of messages between disparate or similar devices, many of which use different messaging protocols and formats, across a range of messaging centers and gateways.

As per claim 2, Elza discloses the system of claim 1, further comprising:
a second client for receiving a third message from a second adapter using a third communication protocol (paragraph [0108, 0122]); and
a second adapter for receiving a fourth message from the server engine using the protocol, generating a third message based on the fourth message, and sending the third message to a second client using a third communication protocol (paragraphs [0122, 0125]).

As per claims 3, 20, Elza discloses the system and method of claims 1, 18, wherein the at least one instruction comprises an instruction for storing data associated with the second message in a storage device (paragraph [0084]).

As per claims 4, 21, Elza discloses the system and method of claims 3, 20, wherein one of the server engine and the adapter determines if the second message is a duplicate message already stored, and if so, rejects the second message (paragraphs [0092, 0133]).

As per claims 5, 22, Elza discloses the system and method of claims 3, 20, wherein the storage device comprises a queue associated with an endpoint (paragraph [0137]).

As per claims 6, 23, Elza discloses the system and method of claims 5, 22, wherein the endpoint is associated with the first client (paragraph [0088]).

As per claims 7, 24, Elza discloses the system and method of claims 5, 22, wherein the endpoint is associated with at least one of a user, a client, and an application different from the client (paragraphs [0077, 0080]).

As per claims 11, 28, Elza discloses the system and method of claims 1, 18, wherein the first client generates the first message prior to sending the first message, the first message comprising a unique message identifier (paragraphs [0075, 0131]).

As per claims 12, 29, Elza discloses the system and method of claims 1, 18, wherein the first adapter or the server engine determines if the received first message is a duplicate of an already received message (paragraph [0133]).

As per claims 13, 30, Elza discloses the system and method of claims 1, 18, wherein the first client device generates a first client device specific unique identifier corresponding to the first message, stores the first client specific identifier, and sends the client specific identifier along with the first message to the first adapter (paragraphs [0131-0132]).

As per claims 14, 31, Elza discloses the system of claim 1, wherein the response comprises a first client specific unique message identifier, and the first client verifies that

the received first client specific identifier corresponds to a stored first client specific identifier (paragraph [0133]).

As per claim 15, Elza discloses the system of claim 1, wherein the first communication protocol is different from the second communication protocol (paragraph [0080]).

As per claim 16, Elza discloses the system of claim 2, wherein the second communication protocol is different from the third communication protocol (paragraph [0080]).

As per claim 17, Elza discloses the system of claim 2, wherein the third communication protocol is different from the first communication protocol (paragraph [0080]).

As per claim 19, Elza discloses the method of claim 18 wherein the first communication protocol is different from the second communication protocol (paragraph [0080]).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BARBARA N. BURGESS whose telephone number is (571)272-3996. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00am-4:00pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (571) 272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Barbara N Burgess/
Examiner, Art Unit 2457

Barbara N Burgess
Examiner
Art Unit 2457

April 26, 2010

/Barbara N Burgess/
Examiner, Art Unit 2457